

# THE PIPELINE



## HELPING HANDS, HEALING FEET

*Advancing the Gospel  
Through Medical  
Intervention*



## A Letter from Stuart Isaac Harrier

Marketing & Communications Director; Editor of THE PIPELINE

I was horrified when Missionary Jane (Programs Coordinator, Rwanda) first informed me of the procedure children undergo to remove the parasite in Africa, commonly known as "jiggers." The *Tunga Penetrans* (jigger) is a nasty parasite that burrows into the feet of other living organisms. If left untreated, the damage to skin and muscle tissue is devastating. An easy way to avoid this bug is by wearing closed-toed shoes and covering your feet. For many in Africa, shoes are a distant dream, and not something easily accessible.

When Jane made me aware of how parents would cut the jiggers out of the feet of their children, with nothing to dull the pain, my heart sank. I knew we needed to intervene. Pastor Samuel and our team have been working hard to investigate safe and human methods of removal for our indigenous friends in Africa over the past few months.

By the grace of God, we have finally arrived to a medical solution which has already been implemented in Ruduha Village, Rwanda. It has been very difficult for our staff on the ground to move from place to place due to COVID-19 Pandemic travel restrictions, but thankfully the Lord made a way for our team to deliver the supplies necessary to begin training local villagers on proper medical treatment for the infestation.

We are a long way from wide-scale implementation across all indigenous villages in partnership with PIPES, and we need the help of our sponsors and donors to fund these efforts. We are the helping hands of Jesus and these feet need to be healed so our indigenous friends can carry the gospel message of Jesus Christ to their own neighbors! Your support is their testimony of God's provision! To God be the glory, AMEN!

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## AUDIO PODCAST

Listen on all major platforms or online at [pipesinternational.org/podcast](https://pipesinternational.org/podcast)



# Helping Hands, Healing Feet



*Advancing the Gospel Through Medical Intervention*



## Recognizing a Need

During PIPES annual trip to Africa, Summer 2019, Missionary Jane brought a very serious issue to the attention of Pastor Samuel. A common parasite known as "the jigger" which is easily avoidable by wearing close-toed shoes had heavily infested the men, women, and children of Ruduha. This is a common issue amongst impoverished villages in Africa.

The parasite itself is commonly found in dry, dusty places and burrows itself into the feet of those who trample the ground where they are located. A tiny parasite, the jigger is incredibly difficult to see from eye level, and thus becomes nearly impossible to avoid stepping on.

Jigger infestations are extremely devastating to skin and muscle tissue if left untreated. Because of a lack of medical knowledge or availability to hospitals, indigenous peoples resorted to extreme measures in an effort to removing the parasites. Knives are often used to dig the parasites out, or to remove dead flesh entirely. The process is extremely painful and seriously traumatic.

## Developing a Plan

When PIPES staff realized the severity of the issue, it became clear that immediate action

was required. African Coordinator, Isaac Maina quickly began reaching out to medical professionals for advice and PIPES staff were educated on proper treatment of jigger infestations as well as given valuable knowledge regarding preventative measures that can be taken to mitigate any further infestations.

## Advocating for the Indigenous Peoples

In mid-June, Missionary Jane met with the Government Executive Director of Ngoma Sector, Rwanda to discuss the number of infestations and to explore government involvement in the treatment process. This continues to be an encouraging narrative in the progress of advocacy for the Pygmies of Rwanda because government leaders are being held accountable for the care and treatment of human beings on their soil.

PIPES is advocating that the government will take action to increase the level of preventative education within all schools and urging government leaders to require school teachers and administrators to instruct children in proper hygiene, as well as take on a level of care and medical aid to increase student focus and participation. Jigger infestations are highly painful and irritating.



## Raising Funds

PIPES is purchasing potassium permanganate, petroleum jelly, soap, nail clippers, hydrogen peroxide, and other medicinal products to distribute to village leaders and parents for the purpose of resolving current infestations, as well as purchasing closed-toed shoes/boots to protect the feet of every indigenous person we are partnered with.

This is a large fund-raising effort and we whole-heartedly believe that every person has the right to own a pair of shoes. We trust the Lord for the funds to provide shoes for the feet of our partnered villages and are excited to see the look on the faces of those whom we are called to serve.

## First Trial in Ruduha

Trial testing for the proper treatment of current infestations (as guided by medical authorities) began in the second week of July and within one week's time, Missionary Jane (Programs Coordinator; Rwanda & Burundi) reported that children are already walking better. This is very encouraging news considering the testing has only been underway for 1 week.

Now, children are able to walk and run more easily and freely. By the grace of God, the helping hands of Jesus have already begun to heal the feet of the poor and helpless.

## Plans for Further Implementation

Translation has been completed on a small 9 page booklet which will be passed out to all PIPES partnered villages throughout our primary operating zones. (Please visit website for details or for access to the booklet.) The booklet is available in the following languages:

Swahili, Kikuyu, Kirwanda, Kirundi, French, Urdu.

"By the end of August, we hope to have the booklet printed in all six languages, to be distributed to our partnering villages." said Pastor Samuel.



## A Testimony of Love

We praise God for the continued financial support and prayers that you, our PIPES Partners offer up to our Lord. This project would not have been possible if it wasn't for your faithfulness and we know that God receives all the glory!

The children who have been freed from the pain of jigger infestations can now testify that it was God's love and grace that gave them relief, and they can now walk in the strength of the Lord and carry the message of His love for them to their friends and neighbors!

Bwana asifiwe! (Praise the Lord!)



JOIN A COMMITTED GROUP OF CHRIST FOLLOWERS WHO  
**UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF PRAYER**

# PRAYER PARTNERS

[pipesinternational.org/pray](https://pipesinternational.org/pray)





YOUTH IN KENYA DOING BIBLE STUDY USING PIPES DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY WORKBOOK. (June 2020)

## DISCIPLESHIP IN ACTION!

The greatest story ever told on earth is the story of the Love of God and His redemption plan for the mankind from their sinful nature to a life of righteousness, peace, and Joy in the Holy Spirit. For indeed, all people are born sinners having fallen short of the glory of God since the fall at the Garden of Eden. God in His own wisdom and through his immeasurable grace sent His own begotten Son Jesus Christ to die so that His precious blood

can atone for our sins and be reconciled back to God.

The first step is to believe in Jesus Christ and then grow to spiritual maturity.

In this regard, PIPES International has developed a discipleship workbook that aims to help Christians grow, be rooted in the faith, and be mature disciples of Jesus Christ. Secondly, it is a perfect tool of evangelism that Christians will find useful in the outreach work.

Bible study groups are beginning to use the workbook. This is a significant milestone. Glory to God.

# MORE BLIND FAMILIES GET HELP IN PAKISTAN.



**The Blind Fellowship received donations on July 15, 2020.  
Pastor Victor shares the gospel and distributes food.**

We are so excited to help those in the greatest need.

The blind fellowship of Pakistan is again grateful for the amazing help from PIPES International.

# IMMEDIATE NEEDS!

PIPES has continued to spread God's love in different ways around the world. We will continue to update our Partners on our progress and achievements.

Currently, PIPES has several initiatives, and we appreciate your prayer and support on our initiatives.

- 1) Translation and publishing of our new 96-page discipleship book in six languages.  
(Total cost of \$12,000 for translation and printing 6,000 copies in local languages).
- 2) Treatment and prevention of Jigger infections (\$20 for treatment per child, including a pair of shoes). Phase one covers 100 children in Rwanda, and then we launch to other countries as well.
- 3) Distribution of food and economic development initiatives for needy families in Africa and Asia.
- 4) Support for our local missionaries and pastors who take the gospel deep into the villages.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE, PRAYERS, AND GENEROSITY. YOUR GIFTS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE TO THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

May God richly bless you, keep you, protect you, and provide for you and your family.

PROVERBS 11:25

# ASANTE SANA!

(Thank You! - Swahili)

# THE PIPELINE

## Want to know how you can partner with us?

- Join our PIPES Partners Family by giving at least a dollar a day, or \$30 per month.
- Become a PIPES Prayer Partner
- Join us for a life-changing trip to Africa or Asia
- Spread the word

Learn more at:

[pipesinternational.org/getinvolved](https://pipesinternational.org/getinvolved)

PIPES International is a global organization that partners with indigenous people groups to make disciples for Jesus Christ and end poverty. PIPES advocates for the basic human rights all peoples deserve.



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